



Helena JSEC Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2008

Members Present:

Carolyn DeYoung	Blue Cross Blue Shield
Gary Willis	Shodair
Robert Ward	Enterprise Rent-a-Car
Larry Westfall	L&S Teambuilders
Alan Thompson	UM-Helena College of Technology
Rosie Walsh	Carroll College Career & Testing Services
Tina Whitaker	MT Committee Employer Services NG
Cathy Wood	Student Assistance Foundation
Kelly McArdle	American Federal Savings Bank
Darlene Chamberlin	Helena High School
Anna Kazmierowski	A2Z Personnel Helena
Kate Menzia & Guest-Sheri Fallang	Center for Mental Health
Sandy Hamlin	Helena Job Service Workforce Center
Dave Laber	Helena Job Service Workforce Center
Deb Buxbaum	Helena Job Service Workforce Center

Introductions: Carolyn asked for introduction of the members. She welcomed all of the new and returning members. Roger Stone had to resign from the committee and sent his regrets.

Minutes: Minutes of the October 15, 2008 meeting were approved (under Hidden Agenda ☺)

Treasurer Report: Robert reported that the Mike Bullock Scholarship fund still has \$271.86, and the JSEC checking account is now at \$6,231.23. Robert said that last month was the biggest increase we've had, and he thanked Dave for his efforts in working with Jim on our fundraising.

Fundraising Report: Several fundraising events with Jim Nys were held in October, for a grand total of \$964.73. Year to date is almost \$1,550.00 that Jim has raised for us. Carolyn asked if we were still doing something in appreciation for Jim at his open house. Dave said we usually buy flowers, but he would also like to get him a plaque. The committee agreed to that, and Dave will take care of getting the plaque by Jim's open house which is December 19. Cathy mentioned that her and some of their staff participated in the webinar that Jim put on. She said it worked out well for them.

Manager's Report: Carolyn asked Deb if she had anything to add to her Manager's Report. Deb said that the Job Service Office has been very busy. There are almost double the people we usually see per day for this time of year. Lots of unemployment customers. Additional computers have been added to help with the increase. We have also seen a drop in hiring from last year. Deb has asked the Capitol Campus Police Officer, Sergeant Foskett, and one of our general services people to talk to us about safety in the workplace.

Speaker List: Sandy distributed the start of a list of speakers that may be of interest to the Committee. If Committee members have anyone they would like to have speak to us, just let Sandy know and she will add their names to the list. This would include any JSEC Members that would like to present a more in-depth view of their company and what they do. Anna suggested that we have Ann Desch from the Small Business Development Center as one of our speakers some time.

Conference: Sandy confirmed some of the plans for the Conference that have been completed. We did get approval to have the Early Bird at the Green Meadow Country Club on Monday, May 18, 2009. That has been booked. Pete Johnson from American Federal will be our sponsor. We will be working on getting information on the surrounding sites (Spring Meadow, Archie Bray, Military Museum) to put in our goodie bags and possibly hand out beforehand. We will be reviewing the hors d'oeuvres list at one of our upcoming meetings, and the facility does have a no-host bar on site. The Red Lion is booked for our Awards Ceremony on May 20th, as well as all of the meetings.

Chris is still working on the speakers. Rosie suggested a couple of speakers to Chris. Larry said that he belonged to the Northwest Speaker Association. A lot of them are from Montana and would be good 'local' speakers. Sandy said that if anyone has specific speakers that they would like to see as part of the Conference, to let her know and she would pass the information on to Chris, who is in charge of that aspect. Chris has contacted the speaker for our Awards Ceremony, Brad Nieder-"Laughter is the Best Medicine". However, she has not received confirmation from him yet. So, in that regard, we will be keeping the DJ's in our pocket in case we still need to use them. Sandy thanked Anna and Kelly for checking on the DJ's. (More specific pricing as I looked back: DJ #1-\$350.00 for 4 hours with each additional hour at \$50.00. DJ #2-\$250.00 for 4 hours).

Just a reminder that there will be a drawing for Conference Scholarships. Gary clarified that the JSEC Member Scholarships includes one member from every area that has a JSEC. The Micro Business Scholarship is just one for the State. That includes any business with 10 or less employees and one million in annual revenue.

The Trolley was discussed as a possibility to haul Early Bird attendees from the Red Lion to the Country Club. From the information Sandy gathered, it would cost \$65.00 per hour but there would be no waiting time in between drop off and pick up. The Trolley holds 30 people, so we may have to make a couple of trips. Deb said that she used it for another function they had awhile back, and the Trolley was very nice and comfortable. Sandy said she would have to have it reserved by February or March of 2009. It was decided that we should poll the JSECs and Job Services around the State to see if there is an interest in riding a Trolley to the Early Bird event. Sandy and Dave will talk it over with Chris before sending something out.

Dave visited with the Golf Pro at the Country Club, and it looks like attendees will be able to golf if they want to. It will just be a matter of coordinating it. Gary asked if they gave us a price, and Dave said that if you don't golf there more than 4 times a year, it would be around \$55.00. We might be able to get it for a little less than that with our sponsor. Larry suggested having a description of the course to give to out. Tina volunteered to assist Dave, and Deb gave the name of a person to contact who might be able to help with setting it up.

Larry updated us on Dave and his visit with Mike Mergenthaler from the Helena Chamber of Commerce. Their visit included a request for support and to provide material for our goodie bags. Mike agreed to that and had some other good ideas. Dave and Larry said the meeting went well, and they will have another meeting with Cathy Burwell in the next few weeks. Larry said that a lot of people just don't know about JSEC so it was kind of educational for Mike as well, and it proved that JSEC probably ought to be doing more of this kind of outreach.

Topic for Next Meeting: Deb suggested that we have a social event at our next meeting since it is right before Christmas. Anna said she was in charge of bringing treats, and Deb offered to help her with that. Deb suggested that anyone who doesn't have a month to bring treats could step in and bring some if they wanted. Rosie and Kate volunteered. Deb also asked if we wanted to make a special effort in December to invite potential new JSEC members. The question was raised on what the criteria was to become a member of JSEC. Carolyn said she thought it was pretty open, and they just had to be recommended by a current member. Larry agreed to present some of his Team Building skills at the December meeting.

Video: Carolyn asked how long the video was, and Dave said 32 minutes. It was agreed that we would watch the video another time if possible since Dave has it on trial only. He has requested that the Department of Labor Disability Navigator Program purchase it for their library so we would have access to it in the future. Tina said that Grant Ellison would be a good speaker to have in conjunction with the video. Grant is on the 'speaker list', and has requested to join our JSEC Membership. Sandy will get him on the e-mail list. Kelly mentioned how we have always wanted to get more involved with the Chamber and maybe we could have someone from there come and talk to us. Gary suggested the January meeting.

Hidden Agenda:

This was Kate's first meeting, and Gary was interested to know what she thought about it. She said she enjoyed it and was especially interested in the Conference and hoped that she would be able to attend in May. She suggested bringing in Montana Rail Link as a speaker since they are a real important industrial employer in our area.

Carolyn took the opportunity to thank all of those attending for making an effort to be at the meetings. She said she knows how busy everyone is so really appreciates their attendance, and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting:

- December 17, 2008 (Social)
- Wednesday
- 3:30 p.m.
- Helena Job Service
- Rooms 1 and 4
- Treats - Anna, Deb, Kate, Rosie